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15 FEB 2002

John W. Bailey
BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASH & BIRCH, L.L.P.
P.O. Box 747
Falls Church, VA 22040-0747

Dear Mr. Bailey:

This is in response to your letter received 30 November 2001 inquiring about the status of U.S. patent application 09/857,308. A response to the Notification of Missing Requirements of 18 July 2001 was received in the Office on 18 September 2001. The application is currently being processed by the U.S. Designated/Elected Office and an Office action will soon be issued. Further inquiries as to the status of this application may be addressed to Miss Charitta Burt at telephone number (703) 305-3734.

Sincerely,

Nguyễn Ngọc Hồ

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